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June 29, 2012

The Honorable Joe Baca  
House of Representative  
2366 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515-0542

RE: **H.R. 4144** (Baca), the Strengthening Economic Development through Affordable Housing Act- Support

Dear Congressman Baca:

The County of San Bernardino is pleased to support H.R. 4144, the Strengthening Economic Development through Affordable Housing Act. This legislation would allow community development corporations and non-profit organizations to access funding from the State Small Business Credit Initiative for the acquisition, construction, renovation and maintenance of affordable housing projects.

With the County's economic challenges, high population of low-income households and 13 percent unemployment rate, an adequate supply of affordable housing is essential to the stability of our region. H.R. 4144 would be an invaluable tool that would spur development and help mitigate impacts from the elimination of redevelopment agencies.

For these reasons, the County of San Bernardino is pleased to support H.R. 4144. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Josh Candelaria, Deputy Legislative Director, at (909) 387-4280. The County of San Bernardino thanks you for your attention in this matter.

Sincerely,

**JOSIE GONZALES, Chair**  
Board of Supervisors